

ROVERS

The Official Programme of
Tranmere Rovers Football Club
Season 1983-84

35p

Review



**FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION CHALLENGE CUP
ROUND ONE**

SEASON 1983 - 84

SATURDAY 19th NOVEMBER 1983 KICK OFF 3.15 p.m

**TRANMERE ROVERS
v
BOLTON WANDERERS**

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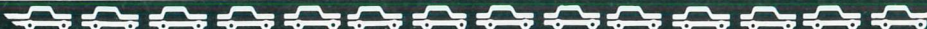
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TRANMERE ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB

Registered Office: Prenton Park, Prenton Road West, Birkenhead.

Telephone: 051-608 3677 and 4194

President: H.B. Thomas

Chairman: G.A. Gould F.C.A. **Vice Chairman:** G.L. Baird

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Gen. Man./Secretary: Jack Butterfield **Commercial Manager:** Warwick Rimmer

Player-Manager: Bryan Hamilton **Assistant Manager:** Ray Mathias

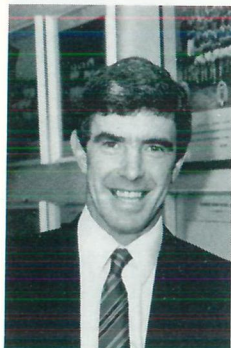
Honorary Medical Officer: Dr. R. Holmes-Ievers

Honorary Orthopaedic Surgeon: R. Johnson M.C.L. (Ortho) F.R.C.S.

Programme Designed and Printed by Advertising Design Services, 97 Wallasey Road, Liscard, Wallasey, Tel: 638 4681



'TALKING ABOUT FOOTBALL'BRYAN HAMILTON



Last Saturday's game against Rochdale was a game I shall remember for some time but for a reason that you possibly would not put your finger on very quickly. When their second goal went in, I knew that my lads would battle their hearts out and they did - but you made it just that bit easier for them **by supporting them in the way that you did.** I knew before last Saturday that my players had character. I know now how much **you** really want the Club to succeed and I can assure you that we shall continue to do our very best.

Thank you for your help - please keep it up!

After sixteen games last season, we had eleven points - after the same number this season we have twenty four. More than double - which is obviously more than 100% improvement. We may be ninth in the table but there is a long way to go and we shall continue to strive for better

things. Injuries are not meant to be an excuse but the team has been weakened by the continued absence of five players including three first team regulars.

Last season we enjoyed four excellent games in the F.A. Cup - against Scarborough, Telford (with a re-play) and Wolves. Our opponents today, renowned Cup fighters Bolton Wanderers, will no doubt make it hard for us to progress but I hope that you - and I - will have an ear to the radio on Monday midday.

Welcome Bolton Wanderers - we at Prenton Park are looking forward to what we hope will be a memorable Cup-tie for excitement and entertainment - which is really what supporters pay their money for! Have a good day!

BIRKENHEAD NEWS - BEBINGTON NEWS - WALLASEY NEWS



READ ROY HAYES FOR THE BEST ROVERS REPORTS

HE'S ONE OF THE STARS OF THE NEWS TEAM

HOYLAK & WEST KIRBY NEWS - HESWALL & NESTON NEWS

WELCOME TO PRENTON PARK



Front Row L to R. Charlie Wright (Coach) Jeff Chandler, Steve Saunders, John McGovern (Player/Manager) Ray Deakin, Simon Rudge, Peter Nightingale (Physio.)

Middle Row. Warren Joyce, Neil Redfearn, Steve Thompson, Tony Caldwell, Eric Snookes, Wayne Foster.

Back Row. Brian Borrows, Neil Berry, John Platt, Simon Farnworth, Gerry McElhinney, Peter Valentine.

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SUPPLIERS TO THE TRADE

BOLTON WANDERERS

SIMON FARNWORTH (Goalkeeper) Coached enthusiastically by Charlie Wright, Simon has been waiting in the wings for his first team break for a couple of seasons.

GERRY McELHINNEY (Defender) Signed from Distillery at the beginning of the 80/81 season, a former Gaelic footballer and amateur boxer, who made his debut for the Wanderers soon after signing. An aggressive, enthusiastic defender who just failed to make the Northern Ireland Cup squad.

RAY DEAKIN (Defender) A left full back who can also play in midfield, Ray joined the Wanderers in the summer of 1982 on a free transfer from Port Vale. Began his career with Everton.

ERIC SNOOKES (Defender) A close season signing from Rochdale where he spent five seasons, Eric is a defender John McGovern had been keeping tabs on for some time. The Birmingham born blonde full back started his career with Preston and had spells at Crewe and Southport.

PETER VALENTINE (Defender) Peter exchanged places during the summer with former Wanderer's skipper Paul Jones who joined Huddersfield. Crossing the Pennines brought a fresh challenge for the promising young central defender.

BRIAN BORROWS (Defender/Midfield) A regular full back berth at Everton in the First Division brought Brian to the attention of a number of clubs last season, Wanderers stepping in just before the transfer deadline, signing the Liverpool youngster for a modest fee. Eight appearances last season in Bolton colours were all in midfield showing the versatility of the promising young player.

JOHN MCGOVERN (Midfield) John was appointed Player/Manager in June '82. One of the games most respected players, he has won League Championship honours with Derby County and Nottingham Forest whom he also led as cap-

tain to two European Cup and two Football League cup successes.

WARREN JOYCE (Midfield) Son of club coach Walter, the former Blackburn and Burnley defender, Warren got his chance in midfield last season. A county cricketer at colts level and a rugby schoolboy tourist makes Warren an all round sportsman.

STEVE THOMPSON (Midfield) Three appearances all away from home, was Steve's taste of first team action last season. Operates wide in Midfield but likes to home in on goal with his powerful shooting.

NEIL REDFEARN (Midfield) It was impossible to ignore Neil's talent last season and when John McGovern was looking for someone to slot into his own midfield position when he was injured, Neil got the job making his debut, still only 17, at Rotherham. Enthusiastic and packing a fierce shot, Neil made 10 first team appearances last season.

JEFF CHANDLER (Striker) A livewire winger with an abundance of skill and control. Jeff cost Wanderers a modest £40,000 when he signed from Leeds United in October 1981. The Hammersmith born lad, who began his League career with Blackpool has won International recognition with the Republic of Ireland.

WAYNE FOSTER (Striker) A former local schoolboy, Foster came onto the Wanderers' scene in the 1981/2 season and commanded a regular place in the attack. Recognised at representative level he got his first England Youth cap in Scotland in a European Championship qualifier.

TONY CALDWELL (Striker) Record breaking scoring feats in Non-League football meant Tony was sure to attract attention sooner or later from one of the North West clubs. Bolton moved in and signed the self employed electrician on part time professional terms from Horwich R.M.I.

INCHARGETODAY

NEVILLE ASHLEY (Nantwich, Cheshire)

Mr Ashley has been refereeing almost 20 years and has been on the Football League list since 1974. He has officiated in various International and Cup games. Married, with two children he is a professional buyer -Pharmaceuticals - and his interests are in referees coaching, keeping fit and road race running. He won representative honours at middle distance and cross country running, and was ranked in the British 880 yards list in 1958.

. DATES FOR THE DIARY.

**Saturday next 26th November
K.O. 3.15 pm**

**CANON LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR
ROVERS v CREWE ALEXANDRA**

Season ticket holders match No. 9 "Come along and bring a friend - it is the last Canon League game before Christmas"
....and at the Oval on the same day - Kick off 11.00 a.m.

ROVERS RESERVES v BURNLEY 'A'

ENJOY YOURSELVES.....



My first very pleasant duty this afternoon is to welcome our many friends from Bolton Wanderers Football Club. They are a club with great traditions and I have witnessed many great games between my old club Burnley and the many great players who have worn that white shirt so very well. Nat Lofthouse, Tommy Banks, Roy Hartle, Doug Holden and Eddie Hopkinson are just a few of the stars who took the cup to Burnden Park in 1958, having previously won it three times and being runners-up on three occasions. A great cup fighting record by any standards. I hope that everyone attending the game today enjoy their visit to Prenton Park and depart with good memories.

PLEASE CUT IT OUT NOW!

Our early season improvement on the field has brought a few problems off-the-field. At Halifax a minority section of our so called supporters became involved in skirmishes on the terraces - it detracted from the excellent entertainment on the field and tended to spoil a very happy evening. But worse was

to come, last week I received a well written letter from a Mr David Bailey of West Drayton who had attended the cracking game against Doncaster Rovers at Prenton Park.

He wrote "As a recent visitor to your ground I was astonished by the behaviour of your so called supporters, because people of our bus (officially run by Doncaster Rovers Supporters Club) had been hit by bricks and even chains. When Doncaster equalised I was hit by an egg on the back of my sheepskin coat which will cost £14 to be cleaned".

THIS BEHAVIOUR IS JUST NOT GOOD ENOUGH! - and I appeal to you all to stop it now - stop it before articles appear in the local Wirral newspapers and put off possible new supporters to Prenton Park. **Everyone** at the club is trying like hell for success and with that success hopefully bigger gates. Silly stupid acts such as the two referred to previously can do a lot of harm **PLEASE STOP IT - NOW!**

LES PARRY TESTIMONIAL

One of the highlights of the social season at Prenton Park was the recent testimonial dinner for Les Parry. About 100 people supported the event and enjoyed the wit of former Wigan F.C. Secretary Eric Jones, the outspoken comments of Malcolm Allison and the terrific comedy from Mick Miller. This was the last of the events in the testimonial calendar - I hope that the hard work that his committee have done has been very rewarding.

Les wishes to thank everyone who has helped and/or contributed through a memorable period - it was hard but enjoyable!

Jack Butterfield

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WIN WITH ROVERS

It is only just a short time ago that Warwick Rimmer joined our Commercial Staff at Prenton Park, but already he has made a big impression in the way that he has tackled the difficult job increasing the lottery sales.

He will no doubt meet many old friends this afternoon because he was an important part of the Burnden Park scene for many years, but his Merseyside connection goes back to his schooldays when he played for Birkenhead Schools and also for England Schoolboys. He attended Park High Grammar School and had a very famous uncle - ex Tranmere, Sheffield Wednesday and England International Ellis Rimmer.



He joined Bolton Wanderers from school and played at Burnden Park for nineteen years - in Divisions One, Two and Three. He played a vital role in the way back to Division Two (from three) in 1973. Since then he has been Player Coach and Manager at Crewe Alexandra, and Team Manager of Sierra Leone prior to returning to the Bolton Commercial Department.

Warwick is doing an excellent job for Tranmere Rovers but he needs help from **you and your friends**. He wants **you** to sell lottery tickets, he wants **you** to recruit an agent for the lottery and he wants support for the advertising and sponsorship schemes, whatever **YOUR ROLE** at Prenton Park - be it Director, Management, Staff, Player or Supporter - give him a helping hand - it is all in the best interests of the future of this club in year 101.

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HAPPY SM



A happy group at the L
 Left to Right: Harold Thomas (Club President), Barr
 Jones, Malcolm Allison (guest speakers), Gerry Gould
 Holsgrove (Director), Jack Butterfield, George Armstrong

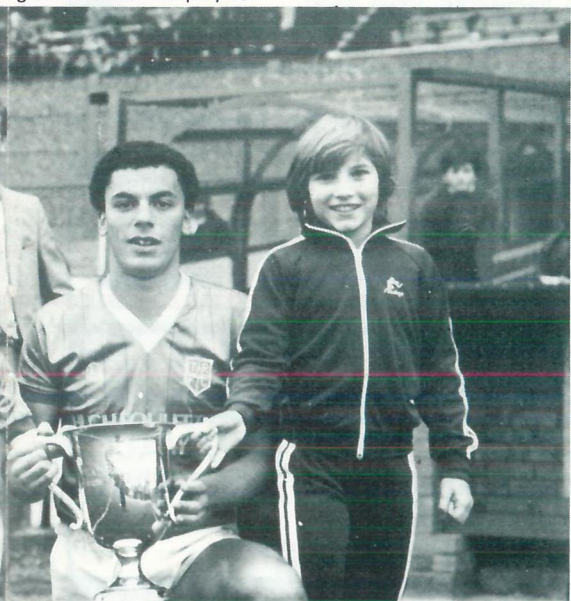


Player of the Month of October Gary Williams with mat
 the presentation of the trophy by Rochdale Chairm
 Hugh Foulerton seen here in a happy mood. If our masc

LING FACES



es Parry Testimonial Dinner
ie Mitchell (Organiser Testimonial Fund Committee), Eric
(Chairman TRFC), Les Parry, Mick Miller (comedian), John
ong (former Arsenal player).



ch-day mascots Jonathan Pugh, and Wendy Findley after
man David Kilpatrick, a personal, boyhood friend of
ots earned a goal each they were good value for money!



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SUPPORTERS ASSOCIATION NOTES

F.A. Cup action returns to Birkenhead today in the form of a potentially exciting tie with Bolton Wanderers. We welcome their fans to Prenton Park and wish them a safe journey home. There is likely to be a large following from Lancashire helping create that unique cup atmosphere. **Your vocal support will be very important this afternoon.**

Rovers will not want a replay but should one be necessary Audrey Evans will be in the club shop after the game to deal with coach bookings.

Since the last notes were written Rovers have kept in touch with the promotion chasers by recovering from a disastrous match at Darlington. The defeat, injuries and 2 men sent off compounded the difficulties Bryan Hamilton already had to contend with. **The response was magnificent** a show of courage and team spirit produced 3 points at Halifax. Well done lads! And don't forget that we have another home game next Saturday, when Crewe Alexandra are the visitors to Prenton Park.

DIARY DATES

Depending on our success today the 2nd round of the cup is on December 10th. Either side of that are away games at Chesterfield and Stockport, Sat 3rd Dec and Fri 16th Dec respectively. Try to join the regulars on the coaches, details of cost and times from Audrey in the Club Shop.

LES SANDS

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MIKE DONAHOE

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MEMORY LANE

THIRTY YEARS AGO

We stretched our unbeaten run to four games with a goalless draw at York on November 14, 1953 and we were now averaging exactly a point a game in the middle of Division Three (North). Teams: YORK: Searson, Patrick, Simpson, Brown, Andrews, Spence R, Linaker, Hughes Dunmore, Storey, Fenton.

TRANMERE: Payne, Gibson, Lamont, Millington, Bell, Kieran, McDevitt, Williams, Atkinson, Done, Fleming. Attendance: 5,215

Rochdale were just above Halifax and Workington at the bottom of the table after a 2-1 defeat at Barnsley (DES FROST getting their goals) while at the top of the table two goals by ALBERT LEAKE earned Port Vale the points against Grimsby and kept them well ahead of Gateshead at the top of the table with another team no longer in the Football League, Bradford Park Avenue, in third place.

Meanwhile in Division One Wolves pulled up to within a point of neighbours W.B. Albion at the top by beating them with a JIMMY MULLEN goal before a 56,500 gate at Molineux. Manchester United were in mid-table, but looked world beaters as they romped home 6-1 at Cardiff.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

We picked up a point in a 1-1 draw at Stockport on November 9, 1963 with CHARLIE McDONNELL, who had just rejoined us from the home side, equalising in the second half after TONY FRANCE had given the home side the lead. Teams:

STOCKPORT: Beighton, Porteous, Cuthbert, Wylie, Parry, Ricketts, Ryden, Evans, Stainsby, France, Bircumshaw.

TRANMERE: Leyland, Wilson, Conroy, King, Oxtoby, Gubbins, Pritchard, McDonnell, Evans, Dyson, Roberts.

We were just above Barrow, Hartlepoons and Bradford at the bottom of Division Four with Rochdale four points ahead of us after a resounding 4-0 win over Southport with DON WATSON, RON CAIRNS (2) and JOE RICHARDSON (who was destined to join us three years later) on the mark.

Meanwhile in Division one KEITH KETTLEBOROUGH's goal at Leicester earned them the points at Leicester to keep them a point ahead of Arsenal at the top of the table after the latter's 3-3 draw with Wrexham. DENIS LAW got a hat-trick in Manchester United's 4-1 win over Spurs to keep them in third place while Everton slipped out of the top half dozen after going down 4-1 at home to Blackburn for whom FRED PICKERING was another hat-trickster.

TEN YEARS AGO

After beating Walsall 3-0 here a week earlier we went down 1-0 at Chesterfield on November 10, 1973, ERNIE MOSS getting the only goal of the game in the first half. Teams:

CHESTERFIELD: Brown, Tiler, Burton, Barlow, Winstanley, Stott, McHale, Moss, Large, Bellamy, Wilson.

TRANMERE: Johnson, Mathias, Farrimond, Moore, Yeats, Fagan, Crossley, Palios, Loyden, Young, Allen. Attendance 4,449

We were now eighth in Division Three with Rochdale bottom after a 3-1 defeat by Watford Dale whose team at that time included Mike Poole in goal and LEO SKEETS up front had won only one game up to that point. By contrast Leeds United still hadn't lost in Division One and stayed ahead of Liverpool at the top with a goalless draw at Burnley. Manchester United were still in the danger zone after a 2-1 defeat at Tottenham with GEORGE BEST netting for the first time since his return to the side after a 14-month absence.

Geoff Allman



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First Team Fixtures

1983
AUG

Sat. 27
Tues 30

SEPT

Sat. 3
Tues. 6
Sat. 10
Mon. 12
Sat. 17
Fri. 23
Mon. 26

OCT

Sat. 1
Sat. 8
Fri. 14
Mon. 17
Sat. 22
Sat. 29

NOV

Tues. 1
Fri. 4
Sat. 12
Sat. 19
Sat. 26
W/C. 30

DEC

Sat. 3
Sat. 10
Fri. 16
Mon. 26
Tues. 27
Fri. 30

Bury 1-1 2,130
Preston MILK CUP 1 (1)..... 0-1 3,231

Torquay Utd..... 1-1 2,317
Northampton Town..... 0-0 2,326
Wrexham 2-1 2,451
Preston MILK CUP 1 (2)..... 0-0 2,992
Mansfield Town..... 0-1 2,002
Hereford Utd..... 0-1 1,984
Colchester Utd..... 2-1 1,822

Hartlepool Utd..... 1-0 1,226
Aldershot 1-1 1,769
Bristol City 2-0 2,520
Swindon Town..... 2-1 2,538
Peterborough Utd..... 0-2 3,311
Doncaster Rovers..... 1-1 2,787

Darlington 0-1 1,776
Halifax Town..... 2-1 1,735
Rochdale 2-2 2,457
F.A. CUP (1) Bolton Wand... H 3.15
Crewe Alexandra..... H 3.15
MILK CUP 4.....

Chesterfield..... A 3.00
F.A. CUP (2).....
Stockport County..... A 7.30
Blackpool. H 11.30 Boxing Day
York City..... A 3.00 Bank Hol.
Reading..... H 7.30

1984
JAN

Mon. 2
Fri. 6
Sat. 7

Sun. 15
W/C. 16
Sat. 21
Sat. 28

FEB

Fri. 3
W/C. 6
Sat. 11
Mon. 13
W/C. 15
Sat. 18
Fri. 24

MARCH

Sat. 3
Mon. 5
Sat. 10
Sat. 17
Sat. 24
Sun. 25
Fri. 30

APRIL

Sat. 7
Sat. 14
ES 21
EM 23
Sat. 28

MAY

Sat. 5
Mon. 7
Sat. 12
Sat. 19

Chester..... A 3.00 Bank Hol.
Torquay Utd..... H 7.30
F.A. CUP (3).....
Bury..... A 2.15
MILK CUP 5.....
Mansfield Town..... H 3.15
Wrexham F.A. Cup (4).... A 3.00

Hartlepool Utd..... H 7.30
MILK CUP S.F. (1).....
Hereford United..... A 3.00
Darlington H 7.30
MILK CUP S.F. (2).....
Doncaster Rvs.. A 3.00 F.A. Cup 5
Peterborough Utd..... H 7.30

Swindon Town..... A 3.00
Halifax Town..... H 7.30
Rochdale..... A 3.00 F.A. Cup (6)
Aldershot..... H 3.15
Bristol City..... A 3.00
MILK CUP FINAL
Northampton Town.... H 7.30

Colchester Utd..... A 3.00
Chesterfield. H 3.15 FA Cup(SFs)
Blackpool..... A 3.00
York City..... H 3.15
Crewe Alexandra..... A 3.00

Chester..... H 11.00
Reading..... A 7.30
Stockport County..... H 3.15
F.A. CUP FINAL.....

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RESERVE TEAM FIXTURES

1983

AUG
SEPT

27
3
10
17
24

OCT

1
8
22
29
26

DEC

3
10
17
31

Bolton W. A..... 5-1
Bolton W. A..... 1-1
Barrow Res..... 2-2
Rochdale Res..... A 1-0
Manchester City A..... 4-0
Chorley Res..... 0-2
Manchester City A..... 3-3
Manchester Utd. A..... 0-1
Burnley A..... H 11.00
Southport Res..... H 11.00
Crewe Alex. Res..... A 11.00
Southport Res..... A 11.00
Chorley Res..... H 11.00

Reserve team home games are played
at the Oval, Bebington.

To re-arrange: Formby Res. H.

1984

JAN

7
14
21
Fri
27
28

FEB

4
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25

MAR

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APR

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28

MAY

5
12

Stockport C. A..... H 11.00
Stockport C. A..... A 7.30
Rochdale Res..... H 11.00
Everton A..... A 11.00
Barrow Res..... A 2.30
Runcorn Res..... H 11.00
Burnley A..... A 11.00
Manchester Utd. A..... H 11.00
U.M.I.S.T..... H 11.00
Formby Res..... A 3.00
Everton A..... H 11.00
U.M.I.S.T..... A 2.30
Runcorn Res..... A 2.30
Liverpool A..... A 11.00
Liverpool A..... H 11.00
Crewe Alex. Res..... H 11.00

Who played Where When

Wednesday 2nd November 1983

F.A. Youth Cup - First Round Proper

BARNLEY 4 ROVERS 1 (Fitzpatrick)

Rovers: Littler, Stephens, Horgan, Roberts P, Jones S, Fitzpatrick, McMullen, Jones C, Harris, Craven. Sumner Sub: Sherlock

Saturday 12th November 1983

Canon League Division Four

ROVERS 2 (Aspinall, Ferguson) ROCHDALE 2

Rovers: Davies, McMahon, Burgess, Higgins, Palios, Philpotts, Ferguson, Aspinall, Greenwood, Brown, Williams G. Sub Allen (d.n.a)

Cheshire Senior Cup - Quarter Final

WEST KIRBY 1 ROVERS 2 (Powell Craven)

Rovers: Adkins, Horgan, Roberts C, Jones, Roberts P, Ludlam, Woods, Proctor, Craven, Powell, McMullen, Sub: Fitzpatrick.

* F.A. CUP - ROUND ONE *

In the event of todays game ending in a draw the replay will take place at Burnden Park, Bolton on Tuesday next 22nd November. Kick off at 7.30 p.m.

CANON LEAGUE APPEARANCES

(Substitutes in brackets)

	App.	(Goals)
Allen	4 (4)	—
Aspinall	16	4
Brown O.J.	13 (1)	1
Burgess	16	—
Davies	16	—
Ferguson	13 (2)	3
Greenwood	1	—
Hilditch	14	2
Mathias	— (1)	—
Mungall	4 (1)	—
McMahon	16	—
Palios	10 (1)	1
Parry	9	—
Philpotts	6	1
Powell	3	1
Williams G.	16	3
Williams J.	10	—
o.g.		2

CANON LEAGUE DIV. 4

HOME AWAY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
York.....	16	6	1	1	22	8	3	2	3	12	9	30
Doncaster...	16	6	2	0	22	10	2	3	3	9	12	29
Blackpool...	16	6	0	2	13	6	3	2	3	7	9	29
Colchester...	16	6	2	0	15	3	1	4	3	8	11	27
Bristol C.....	16	6	0	2	19	4	2	1	5	5	9	25
Aldershot...	16	4	2	2	11	11	3	2	3	9	12	25
Peterborough	15	6	2	0	20	5	1	1	5	8	13	24
Bury.....	13	4	2	0	11	4	3	1	3	9	10	24
Tranmere...	16	4	3	1	12	8	2	3	3	5	7	24
Reading.....	16	6	2	0	26	8	0	3	5	10	20	23
Swindon.....	16	6	1	1	19	9	1	1	6	7	13	23
Hereford....	15	3	3	1	5	4	2	4	2	6	8	22
Northampton	16	3	4	1	10	6	1	5	2	11	12	21
Chesterfield.	16	3	5	0	8	4	1	4	3	10	12	21
Torquay....	16	2	4	2	9	6	3	2	3	13	20	21
Stockport...	16	2	3	3	11	10	3	2	3	14	15	20
Halifax.....	16	4	3	1	12	9	1	2	5	6	17	20
Mansfield...	16	4	1	3	17	9	1	3	4	5	17	19
Rochdale....	16	4	3	1	15	10	1	1	6	6	19	19
Crewe.....	15	5	1	2	11	10	1	0	6	1	13	19
Darlington..	16	4	1	3	6	6	1	1	6	4	12	17
Wrexham...	16	3	3	2	15	10	0	3	5	7	17	15
Chester.....	16	1	2	5	8	14	0	3	5	6	16	8
Hartlepool...	16	1	4	3	6	9	0	1	7	5	20	8



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 Dave HIGGINS 2
 Dave BURGESS 3
 Mark PALIOS 4
 Dave PHILPOTTS 5
 John WILLIAMS 6
 Mark FERGUSON 7
 John ASPINALL 8
 Mark HILDITCH 9
 Owen BROWN 10
 Mark ALLEN 11

BOLTON WANDERERS

Simon FARNWORTH
 Brian BORROWS
 Ray DEAKIN
 Warren JOYCE
 Gerry McELHINNEY
 Peter VALENTINE
 Steve THOMPSON
 Jeff CHANDLER
 Wayne FOSTER
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 Neil REDFEARN

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Linesmen: Mr. D.W. Mansfield (Red Flag) Mr. R.A. Funnell (Yellow Flag)



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